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18th October 2011.

Dear Carys,

Water Industry Act 1991, Section 156
Disposal at Witcombe Reservoir, Witcombe Farm, Gloucester, GL3 4TR

The reservoirs at Witcombe lie within the Cotswolds AONB, and are therefore of strategic significance in plans and policies. The area of proposed land disposal is crossed by public footpaths, one of which crosses one of the dams between two reservoirs and the site is also currently used for quiet recreation in the form of a fly fishery.

The reservoirs were constructed in 1863 and 1870 to supply water to Gloucester and are therefore of local historic interest.

Lying at the base of the Cotswold scarp, the reservoirs are highly visible from a wide arc from Crickley Hill Country Park to Cooper's Hill LNR and from the 3 mile stretch of the Cotswold Way National Trail, which links these two sites. Consequently the area is highly sensitive to change. Drawn from the Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment, the Cotswolds Conservation Board has adopted a set of Landscape Strategies and Guidelines. Witcombe reservoirs lie within the Settled Unwooded Vale Landscape Character Type and the Landscape Strategy and Guidelines for this landscape type are attached along with the Boards Tranquillity and Dark Skies Position Statement.

The Board considers that a restrictive covenant to conserve and manage the landscape in line with the Landscape Strategy and Guidelines and the Board's position statement on Tranquillity and Dark Skies would be appropriate.

Yours sincerely

Mark Connelly

Land Management Officer

Conserving, enhancing, understanding and enjoying the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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